University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Round Robin Report for the Heads of Tech Services in Large Research Libraries
Discussion Group
January 2006
Submitted by Lynn Wiley, Interim Technical Services Division Coordinator

Organizational:
Lisa German, Technical Services Coordinator and Head of Acquisitions accepted a position as Assistant Dean for Technical and Collection Services at Penn State and started there in early Fall 2005. Lynn Wiley was named as interim coordinator and acting Head of Acquisitions while a search is conducted.
Internal searches are underway and will soon be finalized for two new positions that are part of the organizational recommendations made by the Access Strategy Task Force. The Division is now discussing how to implement the full recommendations from the Task Force.

EResources
SFX implementation is proceeding for link resolution, a team has been steadily turning on new targets and assessing the results, there is a steady progress and the kinks are being worked out. User links through SFX are being monitored and point to high use of this feature when available. Web Feat for federated searching has been delayed due to problems encountered with the search translation for particular A and I services, the team continues to work on enhancement suggestions and will be decided on a timeframe to begin user testing soon. We continue to enhance our homegrown ERMS to include some acquisitions information and licensing terms. We looked at usage data and were wowed by the figures: Since Jan. 16, 2004, there have been over 9.2 million clicks on full-text links (instances of a title) within the system! We are implementing a tech support service for E Books to help collect data on problems and to be sure that user problems are resolved quickly. We joined the OCLC serials holding pilot project and are batch loading our holdings from our ERMS direct to OCLC.

Consortia Initiatives:
CIC: The print archive is in place, we have received issues for close to 400 titles and the first shipment has gone to the storage facility. There are problems in that not all the 2005 Springer titles have been received but the procedures laid out work well.

Other Initiatives:
We continue to build our cataloging program and are working towards a more integrated approach for the use of Metadata. We elected to try the Casalini LC Core records and will assess the project at the end of the trial period. We are purchasing approval plan records where available and the enhanced for the rest as well as the TOC. We may look at firm orders after reviewing the approval plan results.

Following up on being named as a NACO independent library for corporate names this past spring, we have continued training our librarians with a series of workshops concluding in January 2006.

The Voyager check in project is nearing completion with over 10,000 check in records added so far. Problem resolution is continuing and we will soon be ready to wean ourselves off our old system. We hope to commence EDI claiming this semester. Acquisitions worked with the Head of Preservation to test and implement the Voyager binding module this summer, it was a big hit with the staff who trialed it.

Preservation –and Conservation
Construction of a new 5000 sq. ft. conservation lab is now underway and should be completed by summer 06

Grants – a Statewide Preservation Needs Assessment (LSTA Grant) is complete; Sandburg and CIC-8 grant work is under way. Additional work being done in support of USAIN V grant and USNP grant

Digitization
The Digital Services and Development Unit has recently put online a collection of French WWI posters, a collection of images from our Motley Collection of Theatre and Costume Design and a small subset of our Collins Collections of Irish Political Cartoons. They are now available with our other CONTENTdm collections at http://images.library.uiuc.edu. We continue to develop other image collections and hope to have more online in the near future.

The project coordinator for IDEALS, the University's Institutional Repository reports that we're in the midst of some fairly major customizations of the DSpace interface to ease faculty and staff's uploading of documents. We've also (with the active participation of catalogers) established a baseline metadata format that will be required for all documents. We are also exploring including both controlled vocabularies as well as allowing social tagging of documents by end users (a la Flickr). We are beginning to build a comprehensive digital preservation management program for the material deposited into IDEALS.

IDEALS staff have been involved with two efforts within the Digital Library Federation that are focused on OAI and metadata issues:
1) Best Practices for OAI Data Provider Implementations and Shareable Metadata (http://oai-best.comm.nsdl.org/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?TableOfContents)
 (a joint effort between the Digital Library Federation and the National Science Digital Library to establish best practices for both the technical requirements of OAI Data Provider Implementations as well as for 'shareable' or interoperable metadata.
2) DLF MODS Implementation Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Materials (see http://www.diglib.org/aquifer/ for basic information about the project and: http://www.diglib.org/aquifer/DLF_MODS_ImpGuidelines_ver4.pdf for the actual guidelines)

1/18/2006 submitted by Lynn Wiley